

equipment or the full range of lawn-care machinery now being offered in green and yellow.

Similarly, our Des Moines-based credit operation owes its success not to the fact that the money it lends goes farther than anyone else's . . . but because of the integrity and service that has long been associated with the John Deere name. (John Deere Credit, incidentally, is quite a successful enterprise in its own right, normally adding 20% or so to the company's overall net income.)

Moreover, it is these non-ag operations that have been the focus of major investment programs of late . . . and which we're counting on to help us achieve more consistency in our profits whenever the farm economy weakens.

\* \* \* \* \*

None of which, in any way, dampens our enthusiasm for farming.

Because despite some of the challenges I've mentioned—and the current downturn is very real and painful—the future for agriculture looks good.

Darned good, in fact.

Regardless of Indonesia's financial problems . . . the world still has 10,000 new mouths to feed every hour, and, again, will need three times today's grain output within 50 years.

No matter what's ahead for Brazil's real or Russia's ruble . . . a good deal of money will be spent on the increased consumption of meat—which is a primary driver of demand for grain.

Beyond the Third World's growing pains . . . the global farm population, now over 40%, will shrink as industrial growth creates new opportunities and higher living standards. This will make Iowa's contribution to the world food supply all the more important.

True, these things may take shape more slowly than we expected, but the fundamental trends are headed in the right direction.

All point . . . to a promising future . . . for a globally attuned . . . technologically astute . . . environmentally aware . . . agricultural sector—such as exists in Iowa and surrounding states.●

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on the Executive Calendar: No. 231 and 233; and the nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Marine Corps, and Navy. I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations were considered and confirmed as follows:

#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

The following named United States Army officer for reappointment as the Chairman of

the Joint Chiefs of Staff and appointment to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 152:

#### To be general

Gen. Henry H. Shelton, 0000.

#### NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

#### To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (1h) Joseph W. Dyer, Jr., 0000.

#### NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE, ARMY, MARINE CORPS, NAVY

Air Force nominations beginning Michael L. Colopy, and ending Eveline F. Yaotiu, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 3, 1999.

Air Force nomination of Thomas G. Bowie, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 13, 1999.

Air Force nominations beginning James W. Bost, and ending Grover K. Yamane, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 13, 1999.

Marine Corps nomination of Michael J. Dellamico, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 13, 1999.

Marine Corps nomination of Charles S. Dunston, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 13, 1999.

Navy nominations beginning Thomas K. Aanstoos, and ending Robert D. Younger, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 26, 1999.

Navy nominations beginning David M. Brown, and ending Paul W. Witt, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 4, 1999.

Navy nominations beginning Anibal L. Acevedo, and ending Steven T. Zimmerman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 13, 1999.

Navy nominations beginning Daniel A. Abrams, and ending John M. Zuzich, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 13, 1999.

Navy nominations beginning Marc E. Arena, and ending Antonio J. Scurlock, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 13, 1999.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will return to legislative session.

### EXTENSION OF AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 1637 introduced earlier today by Senator LOTT.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative assistant read as follows:

A bill (S. 1637) to extend through the end of the current fiscal year certain expiring Federal Aviation Administration authorizations.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent this bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 1637) was passed, as follows:

S. 1637

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, ETC.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 48103 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking “\$2,050,000,000 for the period beginning October 1, 1998 and ending August 6, 1999,” and inserting “\$2,410,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999.”

(b) OBLIGATION AUTHORITY.—Section 47104(c) of such title is amended by striking “August 6, 1999,” and inserting “September 30, 1999.”

(c) LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION.—The provision of the Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999, with the caption “GRANTS-IN-AID FOR AIRPORTS (LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION) (AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)” is amended by striking “Code: *Provided further*, That no more than \$1,660,000,000 of funds limited under this heading may be obligated prior to the enactment of a bill extending contract authorization for the Grants-in-Aid for Airports program to the third and fourth quarters of fiscal year 1999,” and inserting “Code.”

## ORDERS FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1999

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until the hour of 12 noon on Monday, September 27. I further ask unanimous consent that on Monday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then begin a period of morning business until 3:30 p.m., with Senators speaking for up to 5 minutes each with the following exceptions: Senator THOMAS, or designee, 1 hour; and Senator DURBIN, or designee, 1 hour.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## PROGRAM

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will convene on Monday at 12 noon and be in a period of morning business until 3:30 p.m. By previous order, at 3:30 p.m.